

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An image processing apparatus comprising:
detecting means for detecting, in an entered image signal, a high-luminance portion that exceeds a predetermined value;
generating means for generating a control signal, which has a prescribed waveform at the periphery of the high-luminance portion of the image signal, in dependence upon the detection made by said detecting means;
separating means for separating a color signal from the image signal; and
suppression means for suppressing the separated color signal by the control signal.
 - 15 2. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
first storage means for storing an output from said detecting means, wherein said generating means generates the control signal in dependence upon an output from said first storage means; and
second storage means for storing this control signal, wherein said suppression means suppresses the color signal using the control signal read out of said second storage means.
 - 25 3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image signal is a signal of an image captured by image

sensing means, and said detecting means detects a saturated portion of said image sensing means as the high-luminance portion.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
5 control signal has a waveform for obtaining a suppression characteristic in which gain of the color signal is made zero in the high-luminance portion and suppression is reduced with distance from the high-luminance portion toward the periphery thereof and is
10 eliminated at a location beyond a predetermined distance from the high-luminance portion.

5. An image processing method comprising:
a detecting step of detecting, in an entered image signal, a high-luminance portion that exceeds a
15 predetermined value;
a generating step of generating a control signal, which has a prescribed waveform at the periphery of the sensed high-luminance portion of the image signal;
a separating step of separating a color signal from
20 the image signal; and
a suppression step of suppressing the separated color signal by the control signal.

6. The method according to claim 5, further comprising:
a first storage step of storing the detected high-luminance portion, wherein said generating step
25 generates the control signal in dependence upon this

stored high-luminance portion; and

a second storage step of storing this control signal, wherein said suppression step suppresses the color signal upon reading out the stored control signal.

5 7. The method according to claim 5, wherein the image signal is a signal of an image captured by image sensing means, and said detecting step detects a saturated portion of said image sensing means as the high-luminance portion.

10 8. The method according to claim 5, wherein the control signal has a waveform for obtaining a suppression characteristic in which gain of the color signal is made zero in the high-luminance portion and suppression is reduced with distance from the high-luminance portion 15 toward the periphery thereof and is eliminated at a location beyond a predetermined distance from the high-luminance portion.

9. A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for executing:

20 detection processing for detecting, in an entered image signal, a high-luminance portion that exceeds a predetermined value;

25 generation processing for generating a control signal, which has a prescribed waveform at the periphery of the sensed high-luminance portion of the image signal;

separation processing for separating a color signal from the image signal; and

suppression processing for suppressing the separated color signal by the control signal.

- 5 10. The storage medium according to claim 9, said storage medium further storing:

a program for executing processing for storing the detected high-luminance portion, wherein said generating processing generates the control signal in dependence upon this stored high-luminance portion; and

10 a program for executing processing for storing this control signal, wherein said suppression processing suppresses the color signal upon reading out the stored control signal.

- 15 11. The storage medium according to claim 9, wherein the image signal is a signal of an image captured by image sensing means, and said detecting processing detects a saturated portion of said image sensing means as the high-luminance portion.

- 20 12. The storage medium according to claim 9, wherein the control signal has a waveform for obtaining a suppression characteristic in which gain of the color signal is made zero in the high-luminance portion and suppression is reduced with distance from the high-luminance portion toward the periphery thereof and is eliminated at a location beyond a predetermined distance

from the high-luminance portion.

